



The Urban Sanitary District of Mossley.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

January 30th, 1905.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting you with my Ninth Annual Report.

The number of births registered during the year 1904 was 278—151 males and 127 females, being an increase on the year 1903, which was 255. The number of deaths registered was 206—97 males and 109 females, being an increase of 1 on 1903.

The natural increase at the end of the year, being the excess of births above deaths was 72, as compared with 50 in 1903, and 97 in 1902. There were 18 deaths from zymotic diseases, 7 more than in the previous year. The largest number of deaths from any one disease was 10 from Measles, cases of which have occurred in different parts of the town during the months of August, October, November, and December. This gives us a zymotic death-rate of 1·3 per 1,000 population, and 87·3 per 1,000 deaths, as compared with ·8 and 53·6 in 1903.

The birth-rate for the year was 20·4 per 1,000 population, and the number of illegitimate births registered was 10, as compared with 7 in 1903. The general death-rate was 15·1 per 1,000 population, the same as in 1903. The number of infants who died under 1 year of age was 39, as compared with 27 in 1903, 30 in 1902, 36 in 1901, and 44 in 1900. The chief causes of death in these cases were Pneumonia and Measles.

With regard to the sanitary work done during the year, there were 50 cases of infectious diseases notified, viz.:—1 under 1 year, 8 between 1 and 5 years, 30 between 5 and 15 years, 5 between 15 and 25 years, and 6 between 25 and 65 years. There were 20 cases in Lancashire Ward, 24 in Cheshire Ward, and 6 in Yorkshire Ward. This is an increase on the previous year, when there were 41, with 64 in 1902, and 237 in 1901. The largest number of cases of any one disease was 34 of Scarlet Fever, which occurred during the last four months of the year.

The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1899, has been in force since July 1st, 1899. The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, are also in force.

The following table gives the number of notified cases, and of deaths from the principal zymotic diseases:—

Diseases.		Notified Cases.							Deaths.
Measles	0	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	34	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	0	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria	5	...	...	...	1
Smallpox	1	...	...	...	0
Enteric Fever	4	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea	0	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	0	...	...	...	1



I visited the houses in all cases where infectious disease was notified, disinfectants were supplied, printed instructions to prevent the spread of the disease left, and at the termination of the illness, the houses were again visited by the Sanitary Inspector, the sick rooms disinfected, and in many cases the bedding, etc., was removed and disinfected in the Delépine Thresh Disinfecter.

The farmhouse at May Hills is still being used as a Smallpox Hospital, and in it is accommodation for 8 patients.

With regard to Measles. This disease was prevalent over the whole of the Borough, especially during the last three months of the year. It was of a more severe type than we have had in recent years, and there were 10 deaths from this cause.

Though there were 34 cases of Scarlet Fever, they were of a very mild type, and there were only 2 deaths from this cause. This disease occurred mostly during the last four months of the year, and the majority of the cases were in Lancashire and Cheshire Wards.

There was 1 case of Smallpox, which occurred in the end of December, and no deaths from this cause. The patient was an unvaccinated boy of seven years, whose father was a hawker of green-groceries, and it is supposed that the father had come in contact with some infected person and carried the disease on his clothes to the boy. All the other inmates of the house, other than the boy, were immediately vaccinated, and the house and bedding thoroughly disinfected. No second case has arisen from this source. A special report was made by me on this outbreak to the Local Government Board, the County Council, and the Health Committee of the Borough.

There were 5 cases of Diphtheria and 1 death, compared with 11 and no deaths in the previous year. These were all sporadic cases and occurred in different parts of the district, and in the months of June, September, November, and December. Diphtheric Antitoxic Serum is supplied at the expense of the Corporation to all medical men attending these cases in the Borough.

There were 6 cases of Erysipelas and 1 death.

There were 4 cases of Enteric Fever and 1 death, as compared with 6 cases and 2 deaths in 1903. In all cases where defective drains were found, they were attended to immediately, and at every house earthenware pots with air-tight lids were left, so that all excretions from the patients might be put into them and removed. These cases occurred in Lancashire and Cheshire Wards in the months of February, March, May, and December, and there was no reason to suspect the water or milk supply in any of them.

There have been no deaths from lead poisoning, but as a few cases of such poisoning have occurred in the Borough, samples of water from the houses of these patients have been taken, and are being examined for lead.

I have inspected and notified any insanitary conditions in the district which have come to my knowledge, and where necessary, notice has been given for the removal of the nuisance. In the 1 case of overcrowding, the difficulty was overcome by two bedrooms in another house being rented by the people.

I have attended the meetings of the Health Committee, and advised on matters concerning the public health.

Bakelhouses, slaughter-houses, cowsheds, lodging-houses, and factories have been visited, and where necessary, cleansing and limewashing have been done. There is 1 underground bakehouse in use, and its condition is satisfactory to the Committee. Fire-escapes have been put to the Brunswick (old and new ends), the Egmont, Brookbottom, Albion, Croft, and Bottoms Mills, and in the case of Vale Mills other means of escape have been made. 6 water closets have been put in the Brunswick, 8 in the Victoria, 6 in No. 1 Woodend, and 31 in the Britannia Mills; and pail closets have been put, 1 in Croft, 2 in the Spinning Co's, and 1 in Squire Mills. 9 notices for insufficient means of access to fire-escapes have been sent.

At the Sewage Works, the sewage is treated in septic tanks and filter beds, and the effluent is excellent.

The samples of provisions taken in the town by the Inspectors for the Lancashire County Council, were found of very good class, and absolutely free from suspicion with the exception of 1 sample of Irish butter which contained an excess of water, viz.:—19·81 per cent.; 16 per cent. being the maximum limit fixed by the Board of Agriculture.

During the year, there were destroyed by the Sanitary Inspector, the whole carcass of 1 cow, 11 bellies and 5 udders of tripe.

I consider the health of the district was, during the year, very satisfactory, especially with regard to Small-pox, a great many cases of which have occurred in the neighbouring towns and villages.

I now give Tables of Mortality, Birth and Death-Rates, etc., as required by the Local Government Board.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN HEALEY, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	*Rate.	Under 1 year of Age.	At all Ages.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.				Number.	*Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	14463	286	19·8	58	202·7	271	18·7				271	18·7
1896	14596	352	24·2	54	153·4	219	15·0				219	15·0
1897	14648	343	23·8	39	113·7	189	12·9				189	12·9
1898	14785	370	25·0	56	151·3	255	17·2				255	17·2
1899	14878	329	22·1	56	170·2	242	16·2				242	16·2
1900	15009	336	22·3	44	130·9	228	15·2			1	229	15·2
1901	13452	317	23·5	33	113·1	260	19·3			2	262	19·3
1902	13498	279	20·6	30	107·5	182	13·4	1		18	200	14·8
1903	13570	255	18·8	27	105·9	187	13·8			18	205	15·1
Averages for years 1895-1903	14322	318·5	22·2	44·1	138·6	225·9	15·7	1		9·7	230·2	16·0
1904	13633	278	20·4	39	140·2	178	13·0			28	206	15·1

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District : Ashton-u-Lyne Union Hospital ; Ashton-u-Lyne Infirmary ; Cancer Hospital, Manchester ; Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

The Union Workhouse is outside the District.

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages, 13,458. Number of inhabited houses, 3,040. Average number of persons per house, 4·4. At Census of 1901.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 3,929.

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and Previous Years.

Year.	Names of Localities.				Whole of Borough.				Lancashire Ward.				Cheshire Ward.				Yorkshire Ward.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year				
1895	14463	286	271	58																
1896	14596	352	219	54																
1897	14648	343	189	39																
1898	14785	370	255	56																
1899	14878	329	242	56																
1900	15009	336	229	44																
1901	13452	317	262	36	4629		102	11	4701		89	13	4122		71	12				
1902	13498	279	200	30	4633	78	76	7	4726	118	72	18	4139	83	52	10				
1903	13570	255	205	27	4656	84	68	9	4756	95	74	12	4158	76	63	6				
Averages of years 1895-1903	14322	318·5	230·2	44·1	4639	81	62	9	4727	106	78	12	4139	79	62	9				
1904	13633	278	206	39	4674	76	68	12	4784	105	63	15	4175	97	75	12				

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.	
	At all Ages.	Years.						Lanc'shire Ward.	Cheshire Ward.	Yorkshire Ward.		
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upw'rd's			Cheshire Ward.	Lanc'shire Ward.	
Smallpox.....	1			1							1	
Diphtheria	5			3	1	1		2	2	1		
Erysipelas	6	1			1	4		2	2	2		
Scarlet Fever	34		8	24	2			14	18	2		
Enteric Fever.....	4			2	1	1		2	2			
Totals	50	1	8	30	5	6		20	24	6		

Isolation Hospital, May Hills, for Smallpox only, situated in Lancashire Ward.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF RESIDENTS WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.								DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF RESIDENTS BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.			TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. 12
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	L.	C.	Y.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Measles	10	4	5	1				2	2	6		
Scarlet Fever	2		1	1						2		
Whooping Cough	2	1	1					1	1			
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	1	.		1				1				
Enteric Fever	1					1			1			
Diarrhoea	1	1								1		
Enteritis	4	1	1			2			3	1		
Erysipelas	1	1								1		
Other Septic Diseases.	2				2			1	1			
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	13		1	1	4	7		7	4	2		
Other Tubercular Diseases.....	10	1	3	1	1	4		1	3	6		
Cancer, Malignant Disease	16					9	7	6	6	4		
Bronchitis	21	2			1	8	10	6	4	11		
Pneumonia	25	8	7		2	7	1	7	9	9		
Pleurisy.....	1					1				1		
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	3	2		1				1	1	1		
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of Liver } ...	4					3	1	2	1	1		
Premature Birth	2	2						1	1			
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ...	1					1				1		
Heart Diseases	20	1	1	.	1	11	6	8	4	8		
Accidents	2	1		.	.	1			1	1		
Suicides.....	2					2			1	1		
All other causes	62	14	3	1	3	15	26	24	17	21		
All causes	206	39	23	7	14	72	51	68	63	75		

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of	
	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	197	16
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	87	
Homeworkers' Premises	3	
Total	287	16

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Want of drainage of floors	1	1
Sanitary accommodation, insufficient	10	5
,, ,, unsuitable or defective	4	4
Total	15	10

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.	
	Underground Bakelhouses in use during 1903	1
Certificates granted in 1904	1	
Underground Bakelhouses in use at the end of 1904	1	
Homework :—		
Lists received	1	1
Addresses of outworkers received from other Authorities... ...	1	1
Total number of Workshops on Register at the end of 1904	14	



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

January 30th, 1905.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

In the Seventh Annual Report, which I have the privilege of laying before you, it will be observed that the progress of sanitary improvement in your district has still been vigorous during the last twelve months.

The work arising from nuisances in connection with dwellings, such as damp and defective roofs, dirty houses, defective water supplies, blocked drains in cellars and yards, privy and ashpit defects, and insanitary buildings, has occupied a considerable amount of my time.

These improvements have resulted in the abolition of a considerable number of defective stone drains and cesspools, the disconnection of slopstone pipes, and the drains, wherever possible, connected to the sewerage system of the Borough.

The defective drains have been replaced by good earthenware pipes of sufficient size, laid to proper gradients, with cement joints; wherever these drains had to pass underneath a dwelling, they were laid in 6-in. concrete, and, where necessary, connected to your sewers. A number of inspection chambers, etc., have been built to facilitate inspection, and at the same time, comply with your Bye-Laws; they have also been ventilated by means of vent pipes with cowls affixed, to prevent them becoming a nuisance. All slopstone pipes disconnected and trapped.

The number of particulars which have been dealt with are:—

„	„	feet of drainage required	...	...	3443
„	„	traps required	...	...	118
„	„	inspection chambers	...	...	11
„	„	ventilating pipes	...	...	4
„	„	new water closets	...	...	11

(In addition to 46 in Mills).

„	„	new pail closets	...	...	3
„	„	baths	...	...	7
The length of new troughing in feet			...	...	1314
„	„	new downspouts	„	...	828

The number of pptys. dealt with 60

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The work done by this department in the removal of refuse is as follows:—Number of loads of ashes, 3,640; number of pails emptied, 53,592, made up as follows:—Houses, 39,832; Mills, 10,328; Butchers, 1,716; Schools, 986; Workshops, 312; Fishmongers, 312; Gas Works, 156; total, 53,592.

DISINFECTION.

Since we inaugurated the method of weekly disinfection of Schools, these have been regularly gone through; with reference to house disinfection, the following are the details:—Number of houses disinfected, 45; number of houses cleaned, 148; number of rooms disinfected, 118. Number of articles disinfected by the Delépine Thresh Machine, 288. This machine is working very satisfactorily.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACT.

From the Medical Officer of Health's Report, it will be observed a considerable amount of work has been done in connection with the provisions of fire-escapes, means of access to same, closet accommodation and drainage.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

I have inspected the slaughter-houses in the Borough, and find that they are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. We have had 3 dilapidated slaughter-houses pulled down, and 1 erected on the most modern principles, the walls are built of glazed brickwork, concrete floors, stalls for cattle, each containing a hay rack and separate water trough, pens for sheep and pigs. The whole building is a credit to the owners and the Borough. The condition of the meat sold in the town appears to be of a satisfactory nature and free from disease. The amount of meat seized during the twelve months is 11 bellies of tripe, 5 udders, 1 carcass of a cow.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASE OF ANIMALS' ACT.

Under the above Act, I am pleased to state no disease has occurred in our district. We have been called upon by the Board of Agriculture to take special precautions against the spread of a new disease amongst horses, viz.:—Epizootic Lymphangitis, also with reference to Anthrax. The County Authority desire that on the advice of a Veterinary Inspector a cow has died of Anthrax, the Inspector to the Local Authority shall cut off one of its ears, and forward it to the nearest County Police Superintendent, with the name and address of the owner of the animal, so that the ear can be sent to Professor Mc.Faydean, of the Royal Veterinary College, London, so that the opinion of the local Veterinary Surgeon may be confirmed.

I should be glad if the Committee would take seriously into consideration the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Orders of the Local Government Board.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE TREATMENT.

During the last year, the whole length of the arterial sewer has been regularly inspected, and wherever required, cleansed out. This attention has been more than usual, owing to the large amount of matter gaining access from the highways.

At the Sewage Works, 2 new sludge pits have been made on the higher level, and a 3" delivery pipe laid to them from the rams, so that the sludge may be pumped into them. The gas engine, air compressor, and rams have all been put into working order.

The amount treated during the last twelve months amounts to 268,883,523 gallons.

The maximum daily flow for the whole 24 hours occurred on December 14th, when 1,916,230 gallons passed into the works.

I have made 700 analyses of the final effluent during the last twelve months, the mean result of which equals .070 grains of oxygen absorbed per gallon. This is the lowest figure obtained at these works since they were constructed.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEORGE H. TAYLOR.

